

HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE I.T. OVERSIGHT

1993 -
1996

Original iteration of
JITOC

Before
1993

No clear legislative
oversight of IT

1996 -
2005

No clear legislative oversight
of I.T. besides standing
committees

2006 -
2018

Legislative Information
Technology Committee (LITC)

2018 -
Present

Current day JITOC

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 2 V.S.A. chapter 18 is added to read:

CHAPTER 18. JOINT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

§ 611. JOINT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

A joint information technology oversight committee is created. It shall be composed of four members of the house, appointed by the speaker, not all of whom shall be from the same political party, and four members of the senate, appointed by the committee on committees, not all of whom shall be from the same political party.

§ 612. PER DIEM AND EXPENSES

Members shall be entitled to compensation and reimbursement pursuant to section 406 of this title, provided that any meetings held when the general assembly is not in session shall be at the discretion of the speaker of the house and the president pro tempore of the senate.

§ 613. FUNCTIONS

The committee shall advise the general assembly regarding information technology policies and shall:

(1) Review the administration's information technology program and annual financial recommendations submitted to the legislature by the secretary of administration as required by 3 V.S.A. § 2222(a).

(2) Review issues relating to the maintenance of, access to, privacy of, and restrictions on use of computerized records.

(3) Provide ongoing oversight of the development of the state's information infrastructure, including data processing systems, telecommunications networks, and related technologies, with particular attention to the issues of compatibility among existing and proposed technologies.

(4) Consider issues of public policy relating to the development and promotion of the private, commercial, and nonprofit information infrastructure in the state of Vermont, its relationship to the state government information infrastructure, and its integration with national and international information networks.

(5) Make recommendations to the general assembly concerning ongoing legislative and executive oversight of information technologies beyond the term of the joint committee.

Sec. 2. 3 V.S.A. § 2222(a)(9) is added to read:

(a) In addition to the duties expressly set forth elsewhere by law the secretary shall:

* * *

(9) Submit to the general assembly on or before January 1 of each year an information technology report which outlines the significant deviations from the previous year's information technology plan, and which indicates the plan for the information technology activities of state government for the following fiscal year as well as the administration's financing recommendations for these activities and estimates of ongoing costs incurred by these activities over their expected lifespan. The secretary shall also submit to the general assembly an overall information technology plan which indicates the state's anticipated information technology activities for the second through fifth fiscal years following the period covered by the one-year information technology program. For purposes of this subdivision, "information technology activities" means:

(A) the creation, collection, processing, storage, management, transmission, or conversion of electronic data, documents, or records;

(B) the design, construction, purchase, installation, maintenance, or operation of systems, including both hardware and software, which perform these activities.

Sec. 3. SUNSET

Sec. 1 of this act, creating a Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee, shall be repealed on July 1, 1996.

Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

Approved: June 17, 1994

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 2 V.S.A. chapter 23 is added to read:

CHAPTER 23. LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

§ 751. LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

(a) There is created the legislative information technology committee composed of eight members, four from the house of representatives appointed by the speaker, not more than three from the same political party; and four members from the senate, appointed by the senate committee on committees, not more than three from the same political party. Members shall be appointed each biennial session of the general assembly, and vacancies shall be filled in the manner of the original appointment for the remainder of the biennium.

(b) The committee shall elect a chair and vice chair and shall adopt rules of procedure. The office of chair shall rotate biennially between the house and senate members.

(c) The committee may meet during a session of the general assembly at the call of the chair or a majority of the members of the committee. The committee may meet no more than six times during adjournment, subject to the approval of the speaker of the house and the president pro tempore of the senate. A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum. For attendance at a meeting of the committee when the general assembly is not in session, members of the committee are entitled to compensation for services and reimbursement of expenses as provided under section 406 of this title.

§ 752. FUNCTIONS

(a) The legislative information technology committee shall be responsible for the coordination and integration of information technology in the legislative branch in order to ensure that legislative records that are created, received, stored or transmitted by that technology enhance legislative goals and priorities and conform to Vermont's recordkeeping requirements.

(b) The committee shall prepare, adopt, and maintain a long-range plan of at least five years for information technology operations and services in the legislative branch. The plan shall analyze the costs and benefits and risk management aspects of maintaining authentic and accessible legislative records as required by Vermont law. In the preparation of the plan, the committee shall consult with members of the general assembly, the legislative staff information systems team established by section 753 of this title, and other legislative staff, the state archivist, the commissioner of buildings and general services, other representatives of the executive and judicial branches of state government, and members of the public. The committee shall provide the house and senate committees on government operations with copies of the plan and any amendment to the plan.

(d) The committee shall also adopt an annual budget for expenditures for legislative information technology and services and present the same to the committees on appropriations of the general assembly in each annual budget process.

§ 753. LEGISLATIVE STAFF INFORMATION SYSTEMS TEAM

(a) There is created the legislative staff information systems team to be composed of the following legislative staff officers or their designees:

(1) The secretary of the senate;

(2) The clerk of the house;

(3) The chief counsel of the legislative council;

(4) The joint fiscal officer of the joint fiscal committee; and

(5) The sergeant at arms.

(b) The legislative staff information systems team shall provide assistance to the legislative information technology committee as requested by the committee. It shall plan and coordinate information systems and resources for legislative staff and make recommendations to the legislative information technology committee with respect to information technology resources and

services for all legislative staff for inclusion in the legislative information technology long-range plan and annual budget.

Title 2 : Legislature

Chapter 018 : Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee

(Cite as: 2 V.S.A. § 614)

§ 614. Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee

(a) Creation. There is created the Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee to oversee investments in and use of information technology in Vermont and to provide periodic advice on legislative information technology issues.

(b) Membership. The Committee shall be composed of six members as follows:

(1) three members of the House of Representatives, not all of whom shall be from the same political party, who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House; and

(2) three members of the Senate, not all of whom shall be from the same political party, who shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees.

(c) Powers and duties.

(1) The Committee shall oversee, evaluate, and make recommendations on the following:

(A) the State's current deployment, management, and oversight of information technology in the furtherance of State governmental activities, including data processing systems, telecommunications networks, and related technologies, particularly with regard to issues of compatibility among existing and proposed technologies;

(B) issues related to the storage of, maintenance of, access to, privacy of, and restrictions on use of computerized records;

(C) issues of public policy related to the development and promotion of the private, commercial, and nonprofit information infrastructure in the State, its relationship to the State government information infrastructure, and its integration with national and international information networks; and

(D) cybersecurity.

(2) The Committee may provide advice to the Director of Legislative Information Technology and the Joint Legislative Management Committee as appropriate regarding matters related to legislative information technology.

(d) Assistance. The Committee shall have the administrative, technical, and legal assistance of the Office of Legislative Counsel, the Office of Legislative Operations, and the Joint Fiscal Office.

(e) Meetings.

(1) The Committee shall elect a chair and vice chair from among its members and shall adopt rules of procedure. The Chair shall rotate biennially between the House and Senate members.

(2) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

(3) The Committee may meet when the General Assembly is not in session or at the call of the Chair.

(f) Reimbursement. For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the General Assembly, members of the Committee shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to section 23 of this title. (Added 2017, No. 187 (Adj. Sess.), § 8a, eff. May 28, 2018; amended 2018, No. 11 (Sp. Sess.), § E.126.2; 2019, No. 144 (Adj. Sess.), § 9.)

STANDING COMMITTEES WITH I.T. JURISDICTION

House

Before
2017

Government Operations seemed to have jurisdiction of State I.T.:

"The House Committee on Government Operations considers matters relating to... the State's information technology systems policies" (from 2014)

2017-22

*"The **House Committee on Energy and Technology** considers matters relating to ... the state's information technology systems."*

2023-24

Government Operations regained jurisdiction of State I.T. as it had before 2017

2025 -
present

*"The **House Committee on Energy and Digital Infrastructure** considers matters relating to energy, utilities, telecommunications, broadband, information technology, cybersecurity, and other similar policies."*

STANDING COMMITTEES WITH I.T. JURISDICTION

Senate

Before
2025

Unclear as to which committee had jurisdiction of State I.T.

Bills relating to I.T. would be referred to mostly one of these two committees:

- Economic Development, Housing, & General Affairs
- Government Operations

2025 -
present

*The **Senate Committee on Institutions** is referred “matters relating to ... information technology generally along with the acquisition, operations, and management of information technology (in state government and in the General Assembly)”*